

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /053 W

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R 062336Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0398

UNCLAS MEXICO 8782

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, MX

SUBJ: CIVAIR: USG/GOM BILATERAL TALKS

REF: STATE 236868

1. EMBASSY TCO TODAY SENT NOTE AS REQUESTED REFTTEL TO FONOFF AND INFORMALLY SO ADVISED DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION (DGAC) RODRIGUEZ TORRES.

2. DGAC UNEXPECTEDLY SAID HE HAD HEARD OVER WEEKEND (SOURCE UNNAMED) THAT USG NEGOTIATING STANCE UNCHANGED FROM LAST TIME, THAT USG DID NOT EXPECT NEGOTIATIONS TO BE SUCCESSFUL, AND THAT IT FULLY ANTICIPATED AN EXTENSION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POSSIBLE CHANGES OF PERSONNEL ON BOTH SIDES AS RESULT CHANGES OF GOVERNMENTS IN BOTH COUNTRIES IN 1976. IF THIS WERE TRUE, HE FELT THAT IT WOULD SAVE TIME AND MONEY IF THE WASHINGTON SESSION WERE NOT HELD, AND INSTEAD AN EXTENSION WERE NOW AGREED UPON OF ONE AND ONE-HALF YEARS - WITH NEW NEGOTIATIONS TO BEGIN IN MAY OF 1977. THIS WOULD ALSO AVOID, HE SAID, THE BAD PUBLICITY THAT WOULD AGAIN ENSUE FROM DEADLOCKED NEGOTIATIONS.

3. WHILE HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHAT THE POLICY OF THE NEW GOM ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE, HE ASSUMED THAT THE US. POSITION, FORMULATED HE SAID BY THE CAB'S DON LITTON, WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN THE SAME, AS LITTON HIMSELF WOULD

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NOT CHANGE WITH USG ADMINISTRATIONS. HE REEMPHASIZED

HOWEVER THAT HE WAS SPEAKING INFORMALLY AND ON HIS OWN.

4. TCO REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY INDICATION THAT USG EXPECTED NEGOTIATION TO FAIL AGAIN, AND THAT EVERYONE WAS DESIROUS OF A RAPID AND SUCCESSFUL AGREEMENT. WHEN ASKED WHAT UNRESOLVABLE PROBLEMS HE FORESAW, DGAC SAID "FIFTH FREEDOMS. WE DO NOT WISH TO GRANT ANY MORE". HE ALSO NOTED THAT THEY WILL NOT ASK FOR REDUCTION OF EXISTING FIFTH FREEDOMS; NOR WILL THEY ASK FOR MORE FOR THEMSELVES. WHEN ASKED IF THERE WERE NOT SOME ROOM FOR MANEUVER, HE SAID YES, BUT DID NOT ELABORATE.

5. IN A REVERSAL OF AN EARLIER SUGGESTION, DGAC NOW SUGGESTED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS COMPRISE TWO STEPS:(1) THE US.-MEXICO ROUTE STRUCTURE; AND (2) THE BEYONDS. THE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BEGIN WITH THE EASIER - STEP (1). HE ALSO NOTED THAT FIFTH FREEDOMS WERE DISTURBING THE MEXICAN-CANADIAN DISCUSSIONS, THE THIRD SESSION OF WHICH IS TO BEGIN OCTOBER 8 AND LAST THREE DAYS.

6. RODRIGUEZ TORRES' MANNER WAS CALM, AND, IF ANYTHING TIRED. HE DID NOT EVINCE ANNOYANCE AT USG FOR WHAT HE HAD HEARD.(ASSUMING HE HAD HEARD IT - INDEED, HE MAY JUST HAVE BEEN TESTING THE WATER). REQUEST DEPARTMENT ADVISE IF IT WISHES EMBASSY TO CONTINUE THIS INFORMAL INTERCHANGE. IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS WITH BACKGROUND, AS NECESSARY.
JOVA

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